

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1       1. A method of establishing an interface between a service and an application  
2 comprising:

3           receiving a file by the application from a user system, wherein the file contains  
4           standardized interface data;

5           providing the file to the service;

6           generating a return file by the service, wherein the return file contains standardized  
7           interface data;

8           providing the return file to the application; and

9           providing the return file to the user system.

1       2. The method of establishing an interface between a service and an application  
2 of claim 1 wherein the return file is presented as a browser interface.

1       3. The method of establishing an interface between a service and an application  
2 of claim 1 further comprising:

3           generating a dynamic user interface specification by the service;

4           providing the dynamic user interface specification to application;

5           generating a user interface response by the application; and

6           providing the user interface response to the service.

1       4. The method of establishing an interface between a service and an application  
2 of claim 3 wherein the return file is presented as a browser interface.

1       5. The method of establishing an interface between a service and an application  
2 of claim 3 wherein the user system determines content of the user interface response.

1       6. The method of establishing an interface between a service and an application  
2 of claim 5 wherein the return file is presented as a browser interface.

1       7. The method of establishing an interface between a service and application of  
2 claim 3 wherein the user interface specification and user interface response are written in a  
3 markup language.

1        8.     The method of establishing an interface between a service and application of  
2 claim 4 wherein the user interface specification and user interface response are written in a  
3 markup language.

1        9.     The method of establishing an interface between a service and application of  
2 claim 5 wherein the user interface specification and user interface response are written in a  
3 markup language.

1        10.   The method of establishing an interface between a service and application of  
2 claim 6 wherein the user interface specification and user interface response are written in a  
3 markup language.

1        11.   A system for establishing an interface comprising of:  
2            a user system;  
3            an application that receives a file the user system, wherein the file contains  
4            standardized interface data; and  
5            a service that receives the file and generates a return file containing standardized  
6            interface data, sending the return file to the application and the user system.

1        12.   The system for establishing an interface of claim 11 wherein the return file is  
2 presented as a browser interface.

1        13.   The system for establishing an interface of claim 11 further comprised of:  
2            a dynamic user interface specification generated by the service, wherein the dynamic  
3            user interface specification is provided to the application; and  
4            a user interface response generated by the application; wherein the user interface  
5            response is provided to the service.

1        14.   The system for establishing an interface of claim of claim 13 wherein the  
2 return file is presented as a browser interface.

1        15.   The system for establishing an interface of claim of claim 13 wherein the user  
2 system determines content of the user interface response.

1        16.    The system for establishing an interface of claim 15 wherein the  
2 return file is presented as a browser interface.

1        17.    The system for establishing an interface of claim 13 wherein the user  
2 interface specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        18.    The system for establishing an interface of claim 14 wherein the user  
2 interface specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        19.    The system for establishing an interface of claim 15 wherein the user  
2 interface specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        20.    The system for establishing an interface of claim 16 wherein the user  
2 interface specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        21.    A computer system comprising:  
2        a processor;  
3        a computer;  
4        computer readable medium coupled to the processor; and  
5        computer code encoded in the computer readable medium, configured to cause the processor  
6        to:  
7        receive a file by the application from a user system, wherein the file contains  
8                standardized interface data;  
9        provide the file to the service;  
10      generate a return file by the service, wherein the return file contains standardized  
11                interface data;  
12      provide the return file to the application; and  
13      provide the return file to the user system.

1        22.    The computer system of claim 21 wherein the return file is presented as a  
2 browser interface.

1        23. The computer system of claim 21 wherein the processor further:  
2        generates a dynamic user interface specification by the service;  
3        provides the dynamic user interface specification to application;  
4        generates a user interface response by the application; and  
5        provides the user interface response to the service.

1        24. The computer system of claim 20 wherein the configuration file is written in  
2        an extensible markup language.

1        25. The computer system of claim 23 wherein the user system determines content  
2        of the user interface response.

1        26. The computer system of 25 wherein the return file is presented as a browser  
2        interface.

1        27. The computer system of claim 23 wherein the user interface specification and  
2        user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        28. The computer system of claim 24 wherein the user interface specification and  
2        user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        29. The computer system of claim 25 wherein the user interface specification and  
2        user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        30. The computer system of claim 26 wherein the user interface  
2        specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        31. An apparatus for establishing an interface comprising:  
2        means for receiving a file by the application from a user system, wherein the  
3        file contains standardized interface data;  
4        means for providing the file to the service;  
5        means for generating a return file by the service, wherein the return file  
6        contains standardized interface data;

7           means for providing the return file to the application; and  
8           means for providing the return file to the user system.

1           32.    The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the return file is presented as a browser  
2           interface.

1           33.    The apparatus of claim 31 further comprising:  
2           means for generating a dynamic user interface specification by the service;  
3           means for providing the dynamic user interface specification to application;  
4           means for generating a user interface response by the application; and  
5           means for providing the user interface response to the service.

1           34.    The apparatus of claim 33 wherein the return file is presented as a browser  
2           interface.

1           35.    The apparatus of claim 33 wherein the user system determines content of the  
2           user interface response.

1           36.    The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the return file is presented as a browser  
2           interface.

1           37.    The apparatus of claim 33 wherein the user interface specification and user  
2           interface response are written in a markup language.

1           38.    The apparatus of claim 34 wherein the user interface specification and user  
2           interface response are written in a markup language.

1           39.    The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the user interface specification and user  
2           interface response are written in a markup language.

1           40.    The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the user interface specification and user  
2           interface response are written in a markup language.

1        41. A computer program product encoded in computer readable media, the  
2 computer program product comprising:  
3            a first set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to receive a  
4                file by the application from a user system, wherein the file contains  
5                standardized interface data;  
6            a second set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to provide  
7                the file to the service;  
8            a third set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to generate a  
9                return file by the service, wherein the return file contains standardized  
10              interface data;  
11            a fourth set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to provide  
12                the return file to the application; and  
13            a fifth set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to provide the  
14                return file to the user system.

1        42. The computer program product of claim 41 wherein the return file is presented  
2 as a browser interface.

1        43. The computer program product of claim 41 further comprising:  
2            a fifth set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to generate a  
3                dynamic user interface specification by the service;  
4            a sixth set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configure to provide the  
5                dynamic user interface specification to application;  
6            a seventh set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configure to generate a  
7                user interface response by the application; and  
8            an eighth set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configure to provide  
9                the user interface response to the service.

1        44. The computer program product of claim 40 wherein the configuration file is  
2 written in an extensible markup language.

1        45.    The computer program product of claim 43 wherein the user system  
2 determines content of the user interface response.

1        46.    The computer program product of claim 45 wherein the return file is presented  
2 as a browser interface.

1        47.    The computer program product of claim 43 wherein the user interface  
2 specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        48.    The computer program product of claim 44 wherein the user interface  
2 specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        49.    The computer program product of claim 45 wherein the user interface  
2 specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        50.    The computer program product of claim 46 wherein the user interface  
2 specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.